

By: Goldman

H.B. No. 3738

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to creating an Internet website of certain day-care providers and parenting resources.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 42.025, Human Resources Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 42.025. SEARCHABLE DATABASE OF PREVIOUSLY DISCIPLINED FAMILY HOMES.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 42, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 42.026 to read as follows:

Sec. 42.026. INTERNET WEBSITE LISTING DAY-CARE PROVIDERS.

(a) The commission shall maintain a single, statewide Internet website of day-care providers, including day-care centers, group day-care homes, listed and registered family homes, and prekindergarten programs provided by public school districts or charter schools under Chapter 29, Education Code.

(b) The Internet website must:

(1) be user-friendly, easy to navigate, and designed to assist parents in locating and selecting day-care providers;

(2) be searchable by the information provided under Subdivision (5)(D);

(3) provide resources for parents regarding early childhood education and development, including information or materials developed under Section 2308.317(a)(5), Government Code;

1 (4) be easily accessible by:

2 (A) persons who speak a language other than
3 English; and

4 (B) persons and families of persons with a
5 disability; and

6 (5) include:

7 (A) information to assist families in
8 understanding the importance of licensed day-care facilities;

9 (B) an annual report compiled by the commission
10 on the number of deaths, serious injuries, and incidents of child
11 abuse and neglect that have occurred in day-care facilities;

12 (C) contact information for state and local
13 agencies that can provide additional assistance to parents and
14 individuals with questions about day-care facilities;

15 (D) the following information for each day-care
16 provider:

17 (i) the provider's address and zip code;

18 (ii) whether the provider is licensed,
19 listed, or registered;

20 (iii) the provider's hours of operation;

21 (iv) the setting of the day-care provider;

22 (v) the ages of children served by the
23 provider;

24 (vi) whether the provider participates in
25 the Texas Workforce Commission's child care subsidy program;

26 (vii) the provider's Texas Rising Star
27 Program rating provided by the Texas Workforce Commission;

1 (viii) the provider's status as an Early
2 Head Start or Head Start provider as provided by the Texas Head
3 Start State Collaboration Office; and

4 (ix) a link to each inspection report for
5 the provider posted on the commission's Internet website; and

6 (E) an optional profile for each day-care
7 provider, developed in collaboration with the provider, that
8 includes a brief narrative about the provider, information about
9 the provider's services, and photographs.

10 (c) The commission shall consult with the Texas Early
11 Learning Council in developing the Internet website required by
12 this section.

13 (d) The commission shall make the Internet website
14 available through a mobile application for wireless communication
15 devices.

16 (e) The commission may contract with a third party to
17 establish the Internet website and mobile application for wireless
18 communication devices required under this section.

19 SECTION 3. Not later than January 1, 2020, the Health and
20 Human Services Commission shall make the Internet website required
21 by Section 42.026, Human Resources Code, as added by this Act,
22 available to the public.

23 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.